

What is claimed is:

Claim 1. A method for transcutaneous delivery of carbon dioxide to an individual comprising the steps of:

Selecting a portion of the individual's skin; and

Applying a quantity of carbonated water to the selected portion of the individual's skin.

Claim 2. The method of claim 1, wherein the applying step further comprises submerging the selected portion of the individual's skin in the carbonated water.

Claim 3. The method of claim 1, wherein the applying step further comprises the steps of:

Placing a selected quantity of carbonated water in a container that defines an opening, said opening adapted to be sealed against the selected portion of the individual's skin; and

Placing the opening over the selected portion of the individual's skin and orienting the container such that the carbonated water contacts the selected portion of the individual's skin.

Claim 4. The method of claim 2, wherein the applying step further comprises submerging the selected portion of the individual's skin in the carbonated water for at least three minutes.

Claim 5. The method of claim 3, wherein the applying step further comprises applying the carbonated water to the selected portion of the individual's skin for at least three minutes.

Claim 6. The method of claim 1, wherein the container is large enough to receive substantially all of the individual's body, and wherein the selected portion of the

individual's skin comprises substantially all of the individual's transcutaneous skin surface, and the applying step further comprises:

Submerging the selected portion of the individual's skin in the carbonated water.

Claim 7. The method of claim 6, wherein the applying step further comprises, submerging the selected portion of the individual's skin for at least three minutes.

Claim 8. A method for transcutaneous delivery of carbon dioxide as in claim 1 wherein the selecting step further comprises:

selecting a portion of skin adjacent to an area of the individual's body that is experiencing pain.

Claim 9. A method for transcutaneous delivery of carbon dioxide as in claim 1 wherein the applying step further comprises:

Placing a selected quantity of carbonated water in an absorbent material; and

Placing the absorbent material against the selected portion of the individual's skin.

Claim 10. A method for transcutaneous delivery of carbon dioxide as in Claim 9 wherein the applying step further comprises placing the absorbent material against the selected portion of the individual's skin for at least three minutes.

Claim 11 A method for transcutaneous delivery of carbon dioxide as in Claim 1 wherein the portion of the individual's skin further comprises a mucous membrane.

Claim 12 A method for transcutaneous delivery of carbon dioxide as in Claim 8 further comprising placing carbonated water into a container from which a spray of carbonated water may be generated; and the applying step further comprises spraying a quantity of carbonated water on the selected portion of the individual's skin.

Claim 13      A method for transcutaneous delivery of carbon dioxide as in Claim 11 further comprising placing carbonated water into a container from which a spray of carbonated water may be generated; and the applying step further comprises spraying a quantity of carbonated water on the mucous membrane.